

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL MEMORANDUM**

**HB 1476 – SB 1670**

March 30, 2016

**SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL:** Broadens the circumstances under which a grandparent can file a petition for visitation with a grandchild to include when a custodian opposes the visitation and when grandparent visitation has been significantly reduced by the custodial parent, parents, or custodian.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (015185):** Deletes and rewrites the bill to (1) replace references to “significant reduction” with “severe reduction” and replace references to “significantly reduced” with “severely reduced”, and (2) add a subsection to Tenn. Code Ann. § 36-6-306 stating that “severe reduction” and “severely reduced” mean a reduction to no contact or token visitation as defined in Tenn. Code Ann. § 36-1-102(1).

**FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**

**Unchanged from the original fiscal note.**

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Currently, a grandparent can file a petition for visitation with a grandchild if visitation is opposed by the custodial parent or parents.
- The bill as amended expands the current law by allowing a grandparent to file a petition when the visitation is opposed by a custodian and when grandparent visitation has been significantly reduced by the custodial parent, parents, or custodian.
- It is assumed that the bill as amended will not significantly impact petitions filed by grandparents.
- The Administrative Office of the Courts and the Department of Children’s Services confirm that the bill as amended will not significantly impact their operations.

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**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Krista M. Lee" followed by a small, stylized monogram or initials "RNC".

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

/trm